

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): P. Bonutti Attorney Docket No: 780-A03-021-5  
Application No.: 10/755,996 Confirmation No.: 1472  
Filed: January 13, 2004 Group Art Unit: 3731  
For: JOINT SPACER Examiner: Mary Hoffman

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed December 29, 2006, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the file for the above-identified application. Applicant submits these amendments and remarks serve to clarify the present invention and are independent of patentability.